Historical Milestones in Meteorology

Meteorology · Answer Key · 25 Questions

1. Who is credited with creating the first standardized weather map in 1820?

A) Luke Howard
B) Heinrich Wilhelm Brandes
C) Robert FitzRoy
D) Francis Beaufort

2. In what year did the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) formally replace the International Meteorological Organization?

A) 1945
B) 1950
C) 1955
D) 1960

3. Which 19th-century scientist is famous for developing the system of cloud classification still in use today?

A) Luke Howard
B) John Dalton
C) James Glaisher
D) William Ferrel

4. The Beaufort Wind Scale, created in 1805, was initially designed for use by which group?

A) Farmers
B) Aviation pilots
C) The British Royal Navy
D) Merchant sailors

5. In 1922, who published 'Weather Prediction by Numerical Process', laying the foundation for modern numerical weather forecasting?

A) Lewis Fry Richardson
B) Vilhelm Bjerknes
C) Carl-Gustaf Rossby
D) John von Neumann

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6. What was the name of the first weather satellite launched into orbit by the United States in 1960?

A) Nimbus 1
B) TIROS-1
C) Vanguard 2
D) Explorer 7

7. The 'Great Storm of 1703', which struck the southern coast of England, is notable for being the first major event analyzed by whom?

A) Isaac Newton
B) Edmond Halley
C) Robert Hooke
D) Daniel Defoe

8. The invention of the mercury barometer is attributed to which Italian scientist in 1643?

A) Galileo Galilei
B) Evangelista Torricelli
C) Blaise Pascal
D) Marcello Malpighi

9. What major meteorological phenomenon was first identified and named by Gilbert Walker in the early 20th century?

A) El Niño Southern Oscillation
B) The Jet Stream
C) The Coriolis Effect
D) Trade Winds

10. In 1946, General Electric scientists Vincent Schaefer and Irving Langmuir conducted the first successful experiment in what?

A) Cloud seeding
B) Hurricane suppression
C) Tornado tracking
D) Satellite imagery

11. The term 'Jet Stream' gained widespread scientific recognition following observations made by pilots during which conflict?

A) World War I
B) The Spanish Civil War
C) World War II
D) The Korean War

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12. Who proposed the 'Coriolis Effect' in 1835 to explain the deflection of wind patterns due to Earth's rotation?

A) Gustave-Gaspard Coriolis
B) William Ferrel
C) Claude-Louis Navier
D) George Hadley

13. The first standardized international weather code (SYNOP) was established in what year?

A) 1919
B) 1925
C) 1935
D) 1948

14. In 1860, Robert FitzRoy established what service within the UK Meteorological Department?

A) Storm warnings for shipping
B) Public rainfall forecasts
C) Aviation weather reporting
D) Tornado alerting

15. What instrument did Anders Celsius introduce to meteorology in 1742?

A) Hygrometer
B) Anemometer
C) Thermometer scale
D) Barograph

16. The 1935 'Labor Day Hurricane' holds the record for the lowest pressure ever recorded in the United States at what value?

A) 892 mb
B) 912 mb
C) 924 mb
D) 935 mb

17. What is the name of the legendary 'Great Blizzard' that paralyzed the US East Coast in 1888?

A) The White Hurricane
B) The Great White Hurricane
C) The Blizzard of '88
D) The Centennial Storm

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18. The first official weather forecast published in a newspaper appeared in 'The Times' (London) in what year?

A) 1848
B) 1861
C) 1875
D) 1890

19. Which scientist is known for discovering the 'Hadley Cell' in 1735?

A) George Hadley
B) Edmund Halley
C) Benjamin Franklin
D) William Ferrel

20. The 'Year Without a Summer' (1816), caused by the eruption of Mount Tambora, affected which regions?

A) Only Asia
B) Only Europe
C) North America and Europe
D) Global

21. In 1952, the 'Great Smog' of London, a major meteorological and air quality disaster, lasted for how many days?

A) 3 days
B) 5 days
C) 7 days
D) 10 days

22. What did the 1854 Crimean War event involving the French warship 'Henri IV' help demonstrate regarding weather?

A) The need for a storm warning network
B) The power of the Jet Stream
C) The existence of cold fronts
D) The intensity of tropical cyclones

23. Which country operated the 'Meteor' satellite series starting in 1969?

A) United States
B) Soviet Union
C) Japan
D) France

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24. The 'Dust Bowl' of the 1930s in the United States was largely exacerbated by which major meteorological factor?

A) Extended drought
B) Unprecedented flooding
C) Volcanic activity
D) Increased solar radiation

25. Who wrote the 1665 treatise 'Micrographia', which contained early insights into atmospheric phenomena?

A) Robert Hooke
B) Isaac Newton
C) René Descartes
D) Robert Boyle

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